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# McGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

*Thursday, January 15th, 1885.*

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# UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

VOL. VIII.]

MCGILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL, JANUARY 15TH, 1885.

[No. 5.]

## McGill University Gazette

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The UNIVERSITY GAZETTE will be published fortnightly during the College Session.

Rejected communications will not be returned, to which rule no exception can be made. The name of the writer must always accompany a communication.

### Editorials.

#### NOTICE.

THE annual meeting of the shareholders of the MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE will be held on Monday, the 2nd. of February. Only those who have paid for the shares they have subscribed for will be allowed to vote.

#### A CORRECTION.

IN our last number it was announced that the Revs. Canon Norman and James Barclay were appointed Governors. This statement was made upon the authority of a member of the Corporation who, it now appears, was in error, since by the terms of the constitution none but laymen can hold the office of Governor. The two gentlemen were appointed Fellows. Such criticism of the policy of the authorities as was based on the supposed appointment is not, however, untrue. Our graduates have altogether too insignificant a share in the management of college business, and the sooner they wake up to a knowledge of that fact the better it will be for McGill.

#### A STUDENTS' DINING HALL.

THERE is a rumor that the authorities are bestirring themselves to secure a dining hall for the students. We heard the same rumor last year, and pointed out then that the Registrar was occupying a suite of rooms which could be used for the purpose. It is wrong and absurd that, when space is so much wanted, a large part of it should be occupied by an official whose presence, except in office hours, is not essential. For years students have been forced to get their meals in all sorts of places, in various parts of the town, often at a great distance from their lodgings. Now and then students living in airy rooms have been stricken with typhoid fever—contracted at an eating house. Still nothing was done, though after every new outbreak of fever, a whisper would get abroad that at last the authorities were moving. What a distance they must have travelled! To the uninitiated in red tape, the matter does not look difficult. Given the room, the next thing is the caterer. As McGill has nearly five hundred students, one would fancy that many purveyors would compete for the profit of furnishing three meals a day to this small army. What then can be the difficulty? Perhaps one of the powers that be will kindly endeavor to explain.

#### A GRADUATES' DINING HALL.

A MODIFIED form of last year's Club scheme is now being mooted among the graduates. It is proposed that those of them who dine down town should make arrangements with some caterer by which they could dine in one place and by themselves. The expense of such an arrangement to each participant would not it is said exceed \$10 a year. The advantages of this scheme, if carried out, would be many. Old fellow-students would meet more frequently than now, and the graduates would become known to each other. Any non-resident McGill man coming to Montreal would know where to seek his old friends, and better than all, some sort of *esprit de corps* would be awakened. Our graduates are often blamed for their lukewarmness with regard to University matters, yet circumstances are so strongly against them, that it is no wonder their loyalty to McGill is not ardent. Still many have long felt that a little more energy on their part would perhaps have placed them in a better position, as regards their *alma mater*, than they at



present hold. Just now the time is most favorable for them to assert themselves and make their claim to recognition in the settlement of University matters felt. To do this, they must have some place of meeting and opportunities of meeting frequently. How can these necessities be better met than by the institution of a graduates dining-room? All must dine, and all like to dine in agreeable company. Just now graduates, who have never yet met, could not fail of having at least one interesting topic in common, so by all means let us have the dining-room, and with as little loss of time as possible.

#### WHICH IS IT TO BE?

On Wednesday, the 28th day of this month, the Corporation will be called to give their final decision upon the question of separate *versus* co-education in McGill University. It is currently reported that the Principal will attempt to prevent the question being discussed at all on the grounds mentioned in his letters to *The Gazette*, or failing that, will resort to the tactics so successfully adopted at the October session, when a vast amount of routine business was forced upon the meeting, though it was known that many of the members had come up solely for the discussion of the one burning question. So much time was taken up with these matters of detail that many were unable to wait for the vote, in which but fourteen participated, seven voting with the Principal and six against him. It is safe to say that such unworthy generalship, if once more attempted, will meet with the check it deserves, since a number of the Corporation have announced their intention of forcing an early discussion on the subject, or at all events of discussing it, no matter how late the hour, so that no member of the Corporation will be able to vote without having the question before him from both sides. How the vote will result is uncertain. Two at least of the Representative Fellows will not be present, and there are many wavering members liable to cast their votes on either side, according to the measure of persuasion or intimidation which is meted out to them. It will be for the exponents of co-education to convince these undetermined minds by a complete display of the evidence in favor of their side. For us, who have not space to enter fully into the question, it only remains to present two arguments, based on expediency, against the institution of separate classes. The income of \$100,000, for that sum is presumably to be the basis of calculation, is only \$5,000. How many professors will that amount pay? Will it pay as many as will be necessary to carry on separate classes? No, decidedly no. Then the main portion of the work is to devolve upon

the present staff of professors, most, if not all, of whom constantly complained of overwork before the ladies' classes were instituted. What justice will then be done to students of either sex? But, it may be objected, the classes can be brought together in the senior years. If so, the basis of calculation is \$50,000, the money now in hand. But even if that figure be doubled it will not suffice to carry on the separate classes during two years. Certainly no more than three professors of any attainments can be engaged for \$5,000. Yet three could not carry on the classes without much aid.

Again McGill is menaced with great danger. The resources of Ontario's consolidated University will be such as will place it far in advance of the position now occupied by McGill. If the latter is to live, it must take an immense stride forward. The standard will have to be raised, and the professors prepare new courses of lectures. How can they do so, if overburdened with work, and will it not be suicidal to add to the load which these men are now forced to carry? But if the establishment of this formidable rival threatens McGill with annihilation, it may also prove her salvation. There is great jealousy between Montreal and Toronto. More than this, the people of Montreal are accustomed to take pride in possessing a great institution of learning. These things afford the grandest opportunity McGill has ever had. Let her appeal to the citizens of Montreal next year for the aid which alone can prevent her from perishing, and only one thing will prevent them from giving that aid. Thanks to a recent controversy, the people of this city have been brought to see how great would be the folly of establishing a college for women. If the authorities persist in that folly, a distrust of their discretion will be awakened among the people that will disastrously affect a liberality, with which otherwise the authorities would be met next year, when they will be forced to appeal for money to place McGill beside Toronto. Now comes the question. Are the Corporation prepared to risk the loss of the people's confidence? With a Corporation, in which the balance of power rests with men who care little for the University, we have fear. Whether that fear is justified, the 28th of January will show.

As a freshman—med.—was making his way to his seat in one of the lecture rooms the other day, he had to pass the usual habitation of a tobacco ruminant but slipped and fell on the salivated boards ruining his autumn trousers. And as he gazed sorrowfully on the chocolate stain on his *patella*, he groaned out:—

“ 'Tis true, 'tis spitty, and spitty 'tis, 'tis true.”



## ANACREON'S MISTRESS.

To my aid, thou best of painters,  
 Paint her for me, best of painters,  
 Master of the Rhodian art,  
 Bring my mistress back before me;  
 As I speak her, thou shalt limn her.  
 Paint me first her flowing tresses,  
 Black and yielding make her tresses,  
 And, if wax can give the picture,  
 Shew the fragrance breathing from them.  
 Paint her brow like ivory,  
 Shapely, firm the cheeks beneath it,  
 Locks dark-gleaming resting o'er it,  
 Then the eyebrows touch so deftly,  
 Scarce they meet and scarce are sever'd;  
 Paint them black, the arching eyebrows  
 Imperceptibly commingling.  
 To her eyes 'tis here thou failest,  
 Eyes as bright as are Athene's,  
 Melting eyes like Aphrodite's,  
 Fire alone can give their glances.  
 Paint her nose and cheeks like roses,  
 Milk-dipp'd roses, white yet blushing,  
 And upon her lips persuasion  
 Challenging the kiss of lovers.  
 'Neath her dainty chin the graces,  
 Round a neck of Parian whiteness,  
 See! they hover, none is wanting.  
 Violet-hued the robe that veils her,  
 Half-revealing, half-concealing  
 Lustrous fl-sh, that peering through it  
 Tells the tale of hidden beauty.  
 'Tis enough: she stands before me,  
 Wax ere long will learn her language!

R. W. B.

## Contributions.

## MONTCALM AND WOLFE.

In continuing and concluding the sketch of this work, we shall endeavour to work out in as few words as possible the answer to the question, "Shall France remain here, or shall she not?" All of us know that France lost in the struggle and did *not* remain here; still we must not forget that the contest was a hard one, and that the English suffered many reverses before they succeeded in making themselves the rulers of Canada. To give a general idea of their victories, and especially of their defeats, will be the aim of this short article.

In our last we examined the relative strength of England and France in America, and found that the latter, though much inferior in point of numbers, was greatly superior in organization and united action. The want of unison on the part of the English colonies, and their sluggishness in perceiving that the struggle was one in which, notwithstanding the fact that it effected some more directly than others, all should be interested and active, go far to explain many of the events of this part of our history.

Let us look at some of the campaigns in more or less detail, so that we may be the better able to judge of the course of the war. In 1754, the French, by their promptness, managed to surprise some 40 English engaged in the construction of a fort near the site which Pittsburgh now occupies, at the junction of the Alleghany and Monongahela rivers. By immediately

surrendering, the English were allowed to leave the place unmolested, while the French began and completed their large and substantial fort, called Fort Duquesne. In the same year we have the actual fighting begun by Washington, at this time about 22 years old, who, with 30 or 40 men, attacked about an equal number of French under Jumonville, and killed or captured all except one who fled at the commencement of the skirmish. After this, Washington returned to his camp at the Great Meadows, a few miles nearer the Alleghanies than Fort Duquesne, and there threw up the entrenchment of Fort Necessity. Here he defended himself for nine hours amid a heavy fall of rain against a French force at least double his strength. The French were posted on two heights on opposite sides of the fort, and so murderously raked it with their cross firing that Washington was glad to capitulate and accept the terms of the French. Thus the year proved disastrous to the English. "Not an English flag," in the words of our author, "now waved beyond the Alleghanies."

The plans of the English for the campaign of 1755 were on a large scale. They were to attack the French at four points—Fort Duquesne, Niagara, Crown Point and Beauséjour. The general was Braddock, who had just arrived from England and from whom great things were expected. He took command of the expedition against Fort Duquesne—an expedition which turned out so disastrously that it would be difficult to conceive of results more terrible. The chapter which describes it is one of the fullest in details and most graphic in the whole book. The havoc is frightful to contemplate. "Of eighty-six officers, sixty-three were killed or disabled; while out of thirteen hundred and seventy-three non-commissioned officers and privates, only four hundred and fifty-nine came off unharmed." Braddock himself was fatally wounded, after acting with the most determined and unflinching bravery. His desperate courage, however, cannot entitle him to the name of a wise and capable commander. Under the circumstances, no orders could possibly be more fatal than those given by him. Instead of encouraging or even allowing his men to fight from behind trees and other defences, as the enemy did, he was furious in his ardour to have them in regular line and order. That he perceived his mistake, we learn from his words after the battle. "We shall better know how to deal with them another time." He trusted too much to his regulars, who showed themselves entirely ignorant of this mode of bush fighting. His contempt, too, for the provincials was as great as it was groundless, and he himself lived to repent it. True, they were not as experienced as the enemy; but they knew at least something of this mode of warfare. Washington, who was under him in the battle, finds grievous fault of him on this score. The expedition to Crown Point, on Lake Champlain, was more successful. Before reaching its destination it was attacked by the French, who were beaten and forced to retreat. The success was not followed up. The English were also successful at Beauséjour, in Nova Scotia, but the Niagara enterprise was after a time abandoned.

Passing over 1756, we can merely mention the stubborn resistance which the English made in 1757



at Fort William Henry. This fort was at the extreme south end of Lake George, and was besieged by Montcalm, who had come out in 1756 to take command of the French forces. The army which he brought against it was very large, and, notwithstanding the courage and capacity of Monro, the officer defending, it was, after several days' bombardment, forced to surrender.

After this we have Pitt, "the great Commoner," at the head of the home Ministry, and soon a great change in the affairs of our colonies is evident. In fact, it is only when he took the helm of affairs that the English here began to show praiseworthy vigour and to make headway against their enemies. During the years 1758 and 1759 they were almost invariably the victorious party; but it is impossible for us to enter into details. Let those who wish to get a lively, well sustained and picturesque account of the events of those years, read the two volumes of "Montcalm and Wolfe." From them they will learn in the easiest and most impressive way of the fall of Louisbourg, Niagara, Quebec and Montreal; and, lastly, of the transference of all Canada to Great Britain.

TOBIAS GEORGE SMOLLETT, M.D., NOVELIST,  
POET AND DRAMATIST.\*

"An ancient sage, when death approached his bed,  
Consigned to Pluto his devoted head;  
And, that no fiend might hiss, or prove uncivil,  
With vows and pray'rs he fairly brib'd the devil;  
Yet neither vows, nor pray'rs, nor rich oblation,  
Could always save the sinner—from damnation.  
Thus authors tottering on the brink of fate,  
The critic's rage with prologues deprecate;  
Yet oft the trembling bard implores in vain,  
The wit profess'd turns out a dunce in grain;  
No plea can then avert the dreadful sentence,  
He must be damn'd—, in spite of all repentance."

One very evident result of the overwhelming accumulation at the present day of what is known as light literature will be, that much of it must necessarily be left unread, and in a few years practically become extinct. Books of this style have now been increasing for so long in a geometrical ratio, that even the most assiduous novel-reader of our drawing-room will hardly undertake to keep pace with the thousand and one writers who flood the market with their productions, not to speak of his finding leisure for our old literary stock. In this domain, as well as elsewhere, that great rule will hold—the weakest shall perish, the fittest must survive. The trouble will be that, as we go on, and have our stock still further added to, the careful reader will be compelled to sift and pick and judge the more severely, and he will, in the end, have to leave many books aside which he would fain have perused had life been longer, or his unoccupied hours been more in number. And, doubtless, even at the present time, many works, by no means altogether weak, are left unread on this account—even books in particular branches of literature by persons devoting themselves to these very branches.

And to do this picking and choosing with judgment will be no easy matter. The scholars and men of culture have here a task laid out for them, and a very

noble task, in my opinion, it is, to point out and by their influence make popular the most worthy books in all the different branches. Else much time will be lost, much energy be mis-spent, and even much positive injury done. As I said before, many productions must die quiet deaths. The truth is, that a book to survive, requires, even at the present stage, to possess very many points of excellence, and to be egregiously wanting in few or none of the more important qualities. In fiction, as the competition is greatest, so the slaughter of the innocents, to use a rather inapt metaphor, will be most pitiless. The works of Charles Dickens, even, have already been sentenced by a brother novelist, who himself will be wonderfully fortunate if his stories are read by the next generation.\* So that it will be no matter for wonder if the success of many of our less distinguished writers of fiction shall prove ephemeral and their books quickly disappear.

Some such thoughts as the above occurred to me the other day on looking over the miscellaneous works of Tobias George Smollett, M.D. I do not know whether Smollett's novels are much read by ordinary readers at the present day, but that they are not altogether discarded may be gathered from the fact that they are published by the English booksellers in those yellow-backed editions, costing sixpence each, which are so dear to some and so much denounced by others, and which are withal so very trying, with their vile type, to weak eyes. In the course of time, however, unless we are very much mistaken, "Roderick Randa" and the rest will practically cease to be extant, for with all their good qualities, and they are not few, these novels are in their style outrageously repugnant to the taste of the present generation of readers. This change in the public taste is to be ascribed, in my opinion, in no small degree to the fact that women have now come to form the majority of the readers of fiction. That a most beneficial reform has been effected in the language used by novelists cannot be denied. Outspoken indecency of style has been suppressed, and a higher standard of taste set up. This is a change welcome to all, and is due in a large measure, as I have intimated, to the greater freedom at present allowed in the education, thought and studies of women. Nor should our estimate of the benefit of this change be in any way affected by cynical reflections upon the inward state of morals in the present generation. Our particularity in the use of language is a sign of the times; it is in reality rather a means towards an end than an ultimate good in itself. If on the one hand we are not to puff ourselves up and comfort ourselves with self gratulations because of this particularity in our use of expressions, on the other, we must not be provoked by sneers into imagining that a man is any the better because he persists in calling a spade a spade. If the agitation for the emancipation of women, which has been going on for such a number of years, has been in any way conducive to this change of taste we must so far be grateful to the movement. It is a pity that the agitation, in the manner of so many others, is like to run riot in the flush of its success.

\* A paper read before the Morrin College Debating Society, Quebec, 28th November, 1884, and before the Christ Church Cathedral Young Men's Society, Montreal, 6th January, 1885.

\* Anthony Trollope's Autobiography.



But before women could with propriety read novels, new novels which they might so read had to be written. And so after the time of Smollett not only did women come more and more to read novels, but they also became themselves writers in this department of literature. The pioneer in this good work was Madame D'Arblay. "It is not only on account of the intrinsic merit of Madame D'Arblay's early works," says Macaulay, "that she is entitled to honourable mention. Her appearance is an important epoch in our literary history. 'Evelina' was the first tale written by a woman, and purporting to be a picture of life and manners, that lived or deserved to live. . . . Indeed, most of the popular novels which preceded 'Evelina' were such as no lady would have written; and many of them were such as no lady could, without confusion, own that she had read. The very name of novel was held in horror among religious people. In decent families, which did not profess extraordinary sanctity, there was a strong feeling against all such works. Sir Anthony Absolute, two or three years before 'Evelina' appeared, spoke the sense of the great body of sober fathers and husbands, when he pronounced the circulating library an ever green tree of diabolical knowledge. This feeling on the part of the grave and reflecting increased the evil from which it had sprung. The novelist, having little character to lose, and having few readers among serious people, took without scruple liberties, which in our generation seem almost incredible. Miss Burney did for the English novel what Jeremy Collier did for the English drama; and she did it in a better way. She first showed that a tale might be written in which both the fashionable and the vulgar life of London might be exhibited with great force, and with broad comic humour, and which yet should not contain a single line inconsistent with rigid morality, or even with virgin delicacy. She took away the reproach which lay on a most useful and delightful species of composition. She vindicated the right of her sex to an equal share in a fair and noble province of letters. Several accomplished women have followed in her track. At present, the novels which we owe to English ladies form no small part of the literary glory of our country. No class of works is more honourably distinguished by fine observation, by grace, by delicate wit, by pure moral feeling." To these two causes, then, it seems to me, is principally due that change of sentiment on this head which has taken place since the last century.

Now, returning to Smollett's novels, we find them alive with what we, with our present high taste, call indecency, vulgarity and obscenity. His stories are stories which—I shall not say never are, but certainly never should be, read by female readers; and it is for this reason I say that these works are doomed to comparative oblivion.

Of course no one who understands the temper and manners of the time in which he wrote will very severely blame the author for this outspokenness and indelicacy of speech. It was very little if at all thought of by the people for whom he wrote, who would, no doubt, have been much surprised at anyone who should then have called the Doctor harshly to task for his expressions. But as a writer on this sub-

ject remarks "even making all allowance for the manner of the age, his grossness is indefensible; and it is much to be regretted that he had not a higher and more chivalrous estimate of the female character." Even Smollett himself, we imagine, was conscious of having slightly overstepped the usual bounds, not indeed in the matter of plainness of speech so much as in that of depicting what he calls "mean scenes." In the preface to one of his stories he makes somewhat of an apology in these words, "though I foresee that some people will be offended at the mean scenes in which he (the hero) is involved, I persuade myself that the judicious will not only perceive the necessity of describing those situations to which he must of course be confined, in his low estate, but also find entertainment in viewing those parts of life where the humours and passions are undisguised by affectation, ceremony or education; and the whimsical peculiarities of disposition appear as Nature has implanted them. But I believe I need not trouble myself in vindicating a practice authorized by the best writers in this way." From this it will be perceived that the ideas of our forefathers with regard to fiction were largely different from those held by most of us at the present time.

In the same preface he says further: "That the delicate reader may not be offended at the unmeaning oaths which proceed from the mouths of some persons in these memoirs, I beg leave to premise, that I imagine nothing could more effectually expose the absurdity of such miserable expletives, than a natural and verbal representation of the discourse in which they occur." You will all, I am sure, agree with me in saying that there is some room for doubting the truth of the conclusion here arrived at. Smollett's purpose, no doubt, was excellent and highly moral, but we must agree with Ruskin when he says that such methods are mistaken, and that no good is ever done to society by the pictorial representation of its diseases. I must not stay, however, to argue upon this point.

Smollett's stories are, after all, interesting and entertaining for anyone who is not repulsed by those mean scenes and miserable expletives of which he speaks. One may with some aptness apply to him what Emerson says of Montaigne, "though a biblical plainness, coupled with a most uncanonical levity, may shut his pages to many sensitive readers, yet the offence is superficial."

Most of his scenes are taken from low life, and in these alone can he be said to have succeeded. He does not seem to have cared to attempt to present characters in polite society with any degree of justice or delicacy. The reason of this predilection is well explained by an able writer on romance. "When the declining popularity of the pastoral and heroic romance of the 17th century suggested the necessity of opening a new vein in fiction it is probable that the stilted, unnatural and exaggerated character of these effete compositions led the public taste, by a natural recoil of feeling into the opposite extreme, namely, the selection of topics and characters from common and even from vulgar life, and a literal adherence to Nature, even at the risk of the sacrifice of art."

In these, as in many other early English novels, a certain quaintness of expression is noticeable, and adds



much, in my opinion to the pleasures to be derived from them. It is also useful in opening for us to no inconsiderable extent the history of words and phrases which are at present used in quite different senses. Indeed as specimens of English prose Smollett's novels are worthy of a high place, on account of their uniform grace of diction, and occasional pathos, as well as on account of the historical value which I have mentioned. For many reasons it is difficult to give extracts which shall sufficiently illustrate these qualities. Indeed, as someone has remarked "a passage from Fielding or Smollett can convey no more idea of the work from which it is taken or the manner of the author, than a single stone or brick would of the architecture of a house." Take, however, this passage, though I say this is a quite inadequate method for forming a judgement, the description of an abbé, Vol. IV. p. 105. Again take the chapter where it is related how Peregrine Pickle was celebrated as a wit and patron and entertained himself at the expense of whom it did concern, Vol. III. p. 162; also Cadwallader's story of the three black crows. Cadwallader for the purpose of making fools of his acquaintances had set up as a fortune-teller, and in order the more certainly to blind them was continually receiving with contempt and an assumed air of incredulity the accounts which were on everyone's tongue of the conjurer's wonderful powers. Vol. III. p. 142. As I go on I shall give further selections which with these will probably suffice to give some slight idea of the style of the novels.

According to his own confession LeSage was the model whom Smollett wished to follow, and as a consequence we find that his novels are greatly after the style of Gil Blas—they are rather narratives of adventure than studied unfoldings of intricate plots. As Dr. Moore says "the romances of Dr. Smollett are not so much distinguished for the invention of the story, as for strong masculine humour, just observations on life, and a great variety of original characters." The really good scenes and incidents which abound in them are told with a captivating quaintness of expression which adds remarkably to the humour of the portraits. Roderick Random as he was on his way to London to seek his fortune with his faithful attendant, Strap, after walking for several days, entered a small village one evening in the twilight. They inquired for a public house, and were directed to one of a very sorry appearance. At their entrance, the landlord, who seemed to be a venerable old man, with long gray hair, rose from a table placed by a large fire in a very neat-paved kitchen, and with a cheerful countenance accosted them in these words: "*Salvete pueri—ingredimini.*" Roderick was not a little pleased to hear him speak Latin, because he was in hopes of recommending himself to him by his knowledge in that language; he therefore answered without hesitation, "*Dissolve frigus, ligna super foco—large reponens, super foco—large reponens.*" He had no sooner pronounced these words, than the old gentleman, running towards him, shook him by the hand, crying, "*Fili mi dilectissime! unde venis—a superis, ni fallor?*" In short, finding they were both read in the Classics, the old man did not know how to testify his regard enough; but ordered his daughter, a jolly rosy-cheeked damsel who was his

sole domestic to bring a bottle of his *quadrimum*; repeating from Horace at the same time, "*Deprone quadrimum sabina, O Haliarclio, merum dista.*" This *quadrimum* was excellent ale of his own brewing, of which he told them he had always an *Amphora* four years of age, for the use of himself and friends.

In the course of conversation Random came to understand that this facetious person was a schoolmaster, whose income being small, he was fain to keep a glass of good liquor for the entertainment of passengers, by which he made shift to make the two ends of the year meet. He was old, he said,—what then? the more reason he should enjoy the small share of life that remained as his friend Flaccus advised: "*Tu ne quesieris (Scire nefas) quem mihi, quem tibi finem die dederint carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero.*" Having inquired into the affairs of the adventurers, he warned them earnestly against the deceits of mankind to which, he said, he was no stranger. In the meantime he ordered his daughter to lay a fowl to the fire for supper, for he was resolved that night to regale his friends—*permittens divis cetera*. After having partaken of supper and drunk several bottles of the *quadrimum* our friends retired to rest. Before going to sleep, Roderick and Strap had some conversation about the good humour of their landlord, which gave Strap such an idea of his benevolence that he positively believed they should pay nothing for their lodging and entertainment. "Don't you observe," said he to his companion, "that he has conceived a particular affection for us—nay, even treated us at supper with extraordinary fare, which, to be sure, we should not of ourselves have called for?"

Roderick was partly of Strap's opinion; but the experience he had of the world made him suspend his belief until morning. After having partaken of breakfast in company with the old man and his daughter they desired to know what they had to pay. "Biddy will let you know, gentlemen," said the host, "for I never mind these matters. Money matters are beneath the concern of one who lives upon the Horatian plan *Crescentam sequitur cura pecuniam*. Meanwhile Biddy, having consulted her slate, told them that their reckoning amounted to so much, naming a most exorbitant sum Strap swore that she must be mistaken and recourse was had to the father who desired his daughter to count again, but she was positive on the subject. Roderick got indignant, declared it was an unconscionable bill and demanded to know the particulars. A bill was accordingly made out, one of the items of which was "To four bottles of *quadrim*, 2 shillings." As the old man had not the appearance of a common publican, and had raised a sort of veneration in Roderick by his demeanour the preceding night, it was not in his power to upbraid him as he deserved; therefore he contented with saying that he was sure he did not learn to be an extortioner from Horace. The schoolmaster answered, that Roderick was but a young man and did not know the world, or he would not have taxed him with extortion, whose only aim was to live *contentus parvo*, and keep off *importuna pauperies*. His fellow-traveller could not so easily put up with this imposition: but swore he should either take one-third of the money or go without. Biddy, however,



brought in two stout fellows to her assistance and the money had to be paid. Just as they departed Strap, who was half distracted on account of this piece of expense, went up to the schoolmaster, and, grinning in his face, pronounced with great emphasis, "*semper avarus eget.*" To which the pedant replied, with a malicious smile, "*Animum rege, qui nisi paret, imperat.*"

In this anecdote I think the old extortioner with his pedantic glibness is very well drawn indeed. The story reminds us of the fact that throughout his books Smollett gives numerous evidences of his having been a good classical scholar and an extensive reader. And yet with all his knowledge, political, professional and general, he never becomes pedantic. As a result of his learning his stories are raised to a height far above the plane occupied by that class of novels to which "*Snarleygow*," belongs. It seems very derogatory to compare the author of "*Humphrey Clinker*" with Marryatt, still we must confess that we were often reminded of the latter in reading those sea stories which form a large part of "*Roderick Random*" and "*Peregrine Pickle*." The works of both very often smell of the sea, but he, of the eighteenth century flavours the concoction with a little of the coffee-house, the drawing-room and the country life of England of a hundred years ago. Marryatt is all Salmagundi and British naval prowess; Smollett gives us some glimpses of our grandfathers as they courted their mistresses, as they criticized the plays, as they worked in Grub-street, as they beat the bailiffs or whiled away their time in Marshalsea prison. Take, for instance, that description of a coach journey in "*Roderick Random*," Chap. 54.

There is a hearty English ring about all these stories which makes them peculiarly captivating, and in this respect, I may mention, the works reflected the character of the author. Dr. Anderson says, "In his person and manners, Smollett was fashioned to prepossess all men in his favour. His figure was manly, graceful and handsome; and in his air and manner there was a dignity that commanded respect, joined with a benignity that inspired affection. With the most polished manners, and the finest address, he possessed a loftiness and elevation of sentiment and character, without vanity or affectation. His general behaviour bore the genuine stamp of true politeness, the result of an overflowing humanity and goodness of heart. He was a man of upright principles, and of great and extensive benevolence. The friend of sense and of virtue, he not only embraced, but sought occasions of doing good. He was the reliever of the distressed, the protector of the helpless, and the encourager of merit. His conversation was sprightly, instructive and agreeable; like his writings, pregnant with wit and intelligence, and animated with sallies of humour and pleasantry. In his opinions of mankind, except where his personal and political prejudices were concerned, he was candid and liberal. To those who were above him he allowed the due superiority; but he did not willingly associate with his superiors, and always with a consciousness of his personal dignity, and with evident indications of pride and reserve. To his equals and inferiors he behaved with ease and affability, without the insolence of familiarity, or the parade of condescension. With his amiable qualities and agree-

able manners he united courage and independence. In the declaration of his opinions he was open; in his actions he was intrepid, and often imprudent. A gentleman in principle, independent in spirit, and fearless of enemies, however powerful from their malignity, or formidable from their rank, no danger could prevent him from saying or doing those things which he conceived in themselves to be right, and in their consequences to be useful to his friends or country."

If I may be permitted, without appearing presumptions, to give my opinion as to the rank which Smollett should occupy as a novelist I must say that on the whole I do not think that he ought to be placed amongst the very greatest. The title of a great novelist cannot be denied to him, and indeed he excelled in the particular species of fiction which he undertook. But it followed from the very nature of his work that he could not reach the highest eminence. His command of language is unlimited, but his characters are drawn with a bold hand, the finer distinctions and shades being altogether wanting. He was thoroughly acquainted with mankind and possessed fine observational powers, but it seemed to much trouble to him to enquire into the deeper motives. The consequence in his own life is well known—he was deceived and deserted by those whom he had befriended. Dr. Anderson says he had an acute discernment. Well if he had he does not seem to have made use of it. We can better agree with the same writer in saying that he had an active imagination. No one ought to attempt to write fiction who has not. Some one has remarked that his characters are outrageously impossible, but this accusation can hardly be maintained. Again, although it cannot be denied that he was a most versatile writer and created a great variety of original characters yet in his earlier novels there seemed to me to be a very apparent sameness. The truth is that in this style of fiction it is almost impossible to avoid repeating in a disguised form some of your former creations. What is not perceptible in the case of Smollett would be downright tiresome with a less able and imaginative writer. In the first two books, perhaps, everything would be new and fresh, but when the fourth and fifth dishes were served we should begin to perceive that the fare was nothing or little more than rehash of what we had before. The author's amusing adventures and incidents become exhausted and he finds he has perforce to dress up some of his old anecdotes in brand new expressions, with additions and variations, to fill up the gaps, which becomes more numerous in each succeeding volume. In several of his stories Smollett describes the prison life of a London debtor—his hero almost invariably finds himself for a time in Marshalsea prison, or in the extravagant lodgings of an exacting bailiff. Then again, his hero seldom fails to have a profound knowledge of medicine, acquired for his own amusement, which gives great scope for placing the said hero in amusing positions, and for the display of technical knowledge.

From a moral point of view these novels possess this fault, that they seem to take for granted and make little of the vices and indiscretions of youthful life. There is no doubt that such palliation is a dangerous blemish.



Finally, Smollett must be classified as a humourist and a caricaturist rather than a satirist. Fine satire is not infrequent in his earlier writings, but he does not possess the Swiftian genius.

J. R. MURRAY.

(To be continued.)

### McGill News.

At a meeting of the 1st year Arts, Mr. Pedley was elected President, vice Mr. Edgar, who does not purpose continuing the Course.

The Annual Dinner of the Undergraduates in Arts will be held at the Richelieu Hotel next Wednesday. No intoxicating liquor will be permitted to be brought to the table.

The Undergraduates' Literary Society have had their revised Constitution printed in very neat pamphlet form. The principal change made in the Constitution permits students of any faculty to become members.

The President of the Maritime Association, Mr. G. H. Raymond, B.A., has been tendered, through the Secretary, The Society's vote of Sympathy for him in his prostrated condition at his home in Springfield, N.B., which he visited at Christmas.

Mrs. Barr of Burnside St. was presented at Christmas by the McGill students, who partake of her hospitality, with a handsome clock and album accompanied by a beautifully illuminated address, executed by McGill's artist librarian. Mrs. Barr is to be congratulated on the esteem she has and continues to win from her collegiate friends.

According to the Librarian's report, the Science students make greater use of the library than Arts students. This is principally owing to the large amount of reading which is assigned to them by their professors. It may partially arise, too, from the greater privileges that have of late been given to them. Through the exertions of some friend of the Faculty—presumably the Dean—the library has been extended, by furnishing a room, which is already well filled with works on scientific and engineering subjects. To this apartment the scientific students have free access. They are at liberty to examine the books, make out a form for any one, take it down, and if the desired information is not found within its pages they can try others. The students have already been much benefitted by the new regulations. It is to be hoped that they will not abuse the liberty so kindly granted to them by misplacing the books, and thereby causing additional labor to our obliging librarian, Mr. Taylor.

First Junior: "Are you going up to recitation?"  
Second Junior: "No, I'll send up my cuffs, same thing you know."

"Sic iter ad astra," exclaimed the Freshman, as his head came in violent contact with the ceiling. He was at once gagged, and the sport went on as before.

### A LOVE SONG.

My heart's a merry rover  
Though innocent of wrong.  
He's ever Beauty's lover  
But never constant long.

When coral lips are pouting  
Their smiling to disguise,  
He kneels in love, not doubting  
They are his greatest prize.

Yet if, amid his dreaming,  
He spies a bosom fair,  
At once the rogue is scheming  
To gain admittance there;

Though if he sees the tresses  
That frame a pretty head  
His love and his caresses  
He spends on them instead.

Then if bright eyes confuse him  
With many a saucy stare  
The lips, the curls, the bosom,  
Seem now no longer fair.

And yet this merry rover  
Is nothing if not true;  
He's but one maiden's lover  
And she, dear girl, are you.

ATTIE.

### College World.

The majority of the students at Tufts' College seem willing to admit women.

Yale now holds the championship in rowing, baseball, tennis, and foot-ball.

The Garfield memorial window at Williams has been finished at a cost of \$3,645.

There are fifty-eight officers of instruction at the Boston Institute of Technology.

There is not a chair of philosophy in Germany which now teaches materialism.

Two small steam engines are being constructed at the shops by mechanic arts students.—*The Tech.*

Many of the industrial colleges of the United States have sent exhibits to the New Orleans Exposition.

Last year the Freshmen in Engineering at Tufts' college numbered five, this year there are seventeen.

From the *Journal* we learn that the gymnasium at Queen's has been a failure. It advises the Senate to adopt a plan similar to our own.

Cornell University has devoted the sum of \$155,000 from the University funds to the establishment of thirty-six new scholarships and seven fellowships.

As a reminder of her base-ball victories, Yale has 69 base-balls, won from clubs. All are painted the color of the losing teams, and inscribed with the time and place of winning.

The Russian government has recently sentenced nearly one thousand of the students of the University of Kiev to military service in penal regiments stationed in distant regions of the empire.

At Yale the requirements for admission have been changed as follows: One book less of Caesar, of the Anabasis, and of the Iliad; two orations less of Cicero. The time gained is to be devoted to modern languages.



It is said that the grounds given by the faculty of Harvard for prohibiting intercollegiate foot ball were "that foot ball is an unfit game for intercollegiate contests, because notwithstanding however many rules are made, the players becoming too much excited by the nature of the game, break through them."

The attendance at various German universities during the summer semester of this year was : Vienna, 4,706 ; Berlin, 4,145 ; Leipzig, 3,230 ; Munich, 2,511 ; Prague, 2,000 ; Halle, 1,716 ; Tubingen, 1,500 ; Breslau, 1,481 ; Bonn, 1,241 ; Wurzburg, 1,232 ; Gottingen, 1,000 ; Heidelberg, 989 ; Konigsberg, 925 ; Freiburg, 924 ; Jena, 636.

The *Tech* is responsible for the following : "A striking example of the *survival of the fittest* recently occurred in the biological laboratory. Last May, a box containing some one hundred and fifty frogs for dissection was received at the laboratory. In the hurry and bustle of the closing hours of the term the box was laid aside and forgotten, not to be thought of again until the opening of the laboratory at the beginning of the present term. The box was opened, with the expectation of finding the putrefying remains of the hundred and more frogs when, to the great surprise of all, out jumped *one enormous fellow*, apparently in good health. He had survived the whole summer upon his comrades !"

Those who wish to abolish residence at the universities and to grant the degree on examination alone have been accustomed to cite the University of London as a model. That institution was the offspring rather of necessity than of choice ; it was founded to grant degrees to Nonconformists when they were excluded by religious tests from matriculation at one of the old universities and from graduation at both. Having no Professors it is not properly speaking a university at all, but merely an examining board. Now, however, a movement is on foot to obtain a teaching university for London. This shows that mere examination is felt to be unsatisfactory. The feeling is perfectly well founded ; for that which an ordinary student can take into an examination-room is but a small part even of the knowledge, much more of the mental training, which he acquires in the class-room under an able teacher and amidst intelligent classmates.

The senate having appointed several of the lecturers of University college to be examiners in the University examinations to be held next May, a meeting of undergraduates was held at Moss hall on Dec. 10 to discuss the advisability of such course. Mr. Acheson took the chair and several speakers expressed their opinions on the subject. It was argued on the one hand that the lecturers would set papers on the work lectured upon, giving no scope for outside reading ; that there was every possibility of the identity of the candidate being recognized ; that other methods of obtaining examiners were at hand, such, for example, as from United States' colleges, e. g., Johns Hopkins, etc. ; that the college should be more entirely severed from the university. It was argued on the other hand that it was with difficulty that men could be found that kept up their reading sufficiently to be able to

examine ; that the lecturers never suffered from such disability ; and so on. It was decided that the best plan to adopt was to appoint a committee, who should endeavor to learn the wishes of the majority of the undergraduates and report at a future meeting. A motion to this effect was made, seconded and carried.

#### UNIVERSITY FEDERATION.

TORONTO, Jan. 9.—The University federation matter was discussed here to-day and this evening by Toronto University senate, the regents of Victoria College, Cobourg, and the Corporation of Trinity College. At the first named, notice of motion was given that at the next meeting the senate accepts the proposition as a whole and agrees to do everything in its power to carry it out and ask the necessary legislation from the government to give it effect. Trinity College Corporation discussed it for hours and finally adjourned the discussion till Tuesday next. The regents of Victoria University concluded the discussion of the federation scheme at midnight, agreeing to accept it upon the following conditions : 1. That equitable compensation be made to all colleges for losses incidental to their entering into the confederation ; 2. Perfect equality of all colleges, University College included in relation to and rights in the Provincial University ; 3. Such arrangements to be made as shall secure to the alumni of all colleges an equitable representation in perpetuity ; 4. That the chairman of the University Professoriate be appointed by the Government ; 5. That the transfer of subjects from the University Professoriate or *vice versa* be made only by a three-fourths majority of the senate. A committee was appointed to take charge of the resolution in furthering the negotiations and another committee to take legal advice as to what steps are necessary should the conditions be satisfactory.

The following is the proposal as submitted by the Minister of Education : It is proposed to form a confederation of colleges carrying on the arts work of the provincial university in Toronto—Queen's, Victoria, Trinity, Knox, St. Michael's, Wycliffe and McMaster to have the right to enter, keeping in abeyance their powers of conferring degrees save divinity, the head of each to be *ex officio* a member of the senate and governing body, and each to have one other representative ; the university professoriate to have two on the senate, and the council of University college to have the president and one other member ; undergraduates and graduates in law and arts of confederating universities, and graduates in medicine who have passed in Ontario, to be admitted *ad eundem*. Graduates in medicine to vote as one body and elect four members to the senate ; those in law in one body and elect two ; graduates in arts to be entitled for six years to the following representation on the senate : Queen's, Victoria, Trinity, each four ; those of Toronto twelve. After six years separate representation ceases, and the entire body unites in the election. University College shall teach Latin, Greek, ancient history, French, German, Oriental languages, moral philosophy, and may institute additional chairs. Another teaching faculty, to be called the University Professoriate, to teach pure mathematics, physics, astronomy, geology,



mineralogy, chemistry, zoology, botany, physiology, ethnology, including comparative philology, history, logic, metaphysics, history of philosophy, Italian, Spanish, political economy, civil polity, jurisprudence, constitutional law, engineering, and such subjects as the senate may determine. Such professors shall be a corporation presided over by a chairman, who shall be president of University College. Every diploma to indicate the college in which the student attended lectures. The authority of the several colleges over students remains intact. The university endowment and any additions to be applied to the maintenance of the provincial university, university faculty, and university college. Staff of college to be one professor each of Greek, Latin, French, German, English, Oriental languages and moral philosophy, one lecturer on ancient history, one tutor each in Greek, Latin, French, German and Oriental languages, one fellow each in Greek, Latin, French, German and English. Professorial lectures free to all matriculated students of the university who are members of a confederating college; senate shall determine the fees of others. Arts course shall include Biblical Greek, Biblical literature, Christian ethics, apologetics, or evidences of natural and revealed religion and church history, but these arranged so as to be optional. University college work to be carried on in the present buildings; university examination hall, senate rooms, registrar's and other offices to be erected. Additions to be made to school of science for science students and museum. Other subjects for consideration are the completion of the collection of physical apparatus, physiological laboratory and apparatus, astronomical observatory and instruments, and provision for the education of women.

### Between the Lectu s.

THE late medical *Orr-deal* in Botany was very agreeable.

An unrifled *Gunn* has just made a bull's eye in Physiology.

Is it any wonder that McGill students should be anxious to display *de calf* since they have so long possessed *De Cow*.

### THE CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

*Midnight Rambles; or, Bright Eyes of the Night. A Poem.* By F. J. Whishte.

This long-expected little volume surpasses all conception in the manner and variety of its incidents, the vigor and attractiveness of its style, as well as the grace of its expression. The metre is very musical, being *I-am-Betsy try-me-sir*. The choruses are by *St—Ale*.

*My Slang; or, Coloquial Decorations, with a Complete Glossary of the most Popular Bow Mots.* By Le Bell.

This work in 24 massive volumes has been on our table for some time, and we find it infallible for reference. Its size will greatly impede its circulation. We

may remark that the air in the vicinity of the work becomes quite blue.

*The Art of Cribbing. Its Uses and Abuses.* By D'Harry. With Copious Annotations, by Cost O, Gan.

This little gilt-edged volume may be consulted with some apparent advantage, though much real danger by all except honour students. The subject treated is a vast one, but the above authorities are indisputable.

*The Cook's Friend.* By N. O. Body. Style, *Cook-ney*; matter, *Worth-less*.

*Sunrise in the East, or the Boarders af Cas-P-Ann-C.*

An anonymous pamphlet, sentimental rather than instructive. The authors dreading detectives suppress their names, which are, however, well known to the reading public.

*The Sams and Hims of Mag Gill.* By Blondin.

We have as yet only seen the proof-sheets of this long looked for and much talked of work. It will be just the thing for college nightengales, but its use will shatter the delicacy of many *tin-pan a*.

*Geology of the Pale-eh-O-so-hic Time.* By Har Kin.

"What are College Journals, father, and what do they contain?"

"Organs that students do play, my boy,  
To answer the taste of the day, my boy,  
Whatever it be,  
They hit the key,  
And pipe in full concert away, my boy.

News from all countries and climes, my boy,  
Advertisements, essays, and rhymes, my boy,  
Fixed up with all sorts  
Of flying reports,  
And published at regular times, my boy.

Articles able and wise, my boy,  
At least in the editor's eyes, my boy,  
And logic so grand  
That few understand  
To what in the world it applies, my boy.

Statistics, reflections, reviews, my boy,  
Little scraps to instruct and amuse, my boy,  
And lengthy debate  
Upon matters of state,  
For wise-headed folks to peruse, my boy."

—Lantern.

### AN UNKISSED KISS.

I wish—if I only had dared.  
She frankly held out her hand;  
And I know that she wouldn't have cared,  
But I didn't have quite enough "sand."  
I was making my farewell call.  
For a moment I held her small hand.  
Good-night, Miss Pauline,—that was all.  
Do you think she would have cared?  
I wish—if I only had dared.

—Yale Record.

"Where, O where is my boy to-night?"  
Whispers a mother dear,  
"He's been run in for sassing the cops  
And trying to raise a cheer."

—Eric.



## LOVE AND DEATH.

(From the French of Louise Ackermann.)

Yes! the light clay that doth our souls encrust  
Shall cease with joy to thrill, with pain to smart:  
The winds shall dissipate the noble dust  
That formed a human heart.

But other hearts shall still renew the tale  
Of hopes that wither and of loves that die,  
And tears shall flow, and cherished dreams shall fail  
Till Time no more shall fly,

All beings, forming one eternal chain,  
Pass, each to each, the torch of love's desire;  
The hands that grasp it, soon, too soon, again  
Transmit the sacred fire.

GEO. MURRAY.

## Societies.

## SOME OF MCGILL'S ATHLETIC RECORDS.

EVENT.	DATE.	NAME.	RECORD.
Kicking Football.....	1884.	T. D. Robertson	160 ft.
Running High Jump.....	"	J. A. Springle	4 " 10 in.
Running Long Jump.....	"	T. W. Lesage	18 " 2 "
Throwing 16 lbs. Hammer.....	1879.	C. W. Trenholme	80 ft.
Throwing 14 lbs. Hammer.....	1880.	C. W. Trenholme	89 " 6 in.
Putting 16 lbs. Shot.....	1883.	C. W. Trenholme	32 " 8½ in.
Putting 18 lbs. Shot.....	1882.	C. W. Trenholme	29 " 10 in.
Throwing 56 lbs.....	1880.	W. A. McKenzie	19 " 10 in.
One Mile Walk.....	1879.	W. H. Drummond	8 min. 27 sec.
Two Mile Walk.....	1883.	C. B. Smith	17 " 58½ "
100 Yards Run.....	1881.	E. J. Wendell (Harvard)	24½ sec.
220 ".....	1883.	A. F. Clerk	58 "
440 ".....	1878.	C. W. Scriver	2 min. 7 sec.
880 ".....	1883.	D. D. McTaggart	4 " 54½ "
One Mile ".....	1883.	D. D. McTaggart	3 " 58½ "
Bicycle Race (1 mile).....	1884.	R. E. Holden	

Running records of 1883 and 1884 were made on a cinder track. Before 1883 there was only a grass track. In 1878 M. Cuzner threw a shot 37 feet, which was afterwards found to be under weight, and being a "throw," and not a "put," could not go on record.

## UNDERGRADUATES LITERARY SOCIETY.

This society re-assembled for the present term on Friday evening, January 9th, there being a good attendance. A programme got up at short notice was successfully carried out. Messrs. Breathwaite and Murray Watson contributing readings and Mr. Watson an amusing paper on "Boys." A debate also took place on the question whether or not the power of England was declining, Messrs. Topp, McOuat, and F. Pedley speaking for the affirmative, and Messrs. Mason, A. Johnson and Solandt for the negative. If the arguments adduced were not very profound, the discussion was deserving of praise as an example of extempore speaking. Dr. Harrington will deliver his promised address before the Society on January 23. The following are the members of the special committee charged with the duty of framing the programmes, and just elected for the ensuing term:—Messrs. Yates, Moore, Bell, Gerrie, and Mason.

## McG. U. A. A.

We do not know when the annual meeting of the McGill University Athletic Association will be held. As considerable time may elapse before the annual reports can be placed in the hands of the members we give below a few statistics obtained from the Treasurer of the Executive Committee. The figures there given show the association to be in a prosperous condition, there being a balance of \$161.85 which, we were told

does not include the balance brought over from the previous year. It now seems strange to many that such an association was not formed years before. Had it effected nothing more than the preservation of the athletic records of the University its usefulness would now be apparent to all. As it is, many of the former records are lost. With difficulty we have rescued from obscurity a few of the best done within the last five years, and publish them here.

## Expenditure.

To Prizes.....	\$182 00
" Band services.....	32 00
" Printing.....	44 50
" Police.....	5 00
	262 50
Incidentals, including—	
Badges, books, stamps, etc.....	11 35
Apparatus, including—	
Measuring tape, Football, rent	
of tents, casting, etc.....	22 10
Total Expenses	\$295 95

## Cash Receipts.

Subscriptions from,—	
Medicine—Professors.....	\$ 89 00
Undergraduates.....	151 50
	240 50
Arts—Professors.....	\$ 43 00
Undergraduates.....	69 00
	112 00
Science total.....	56 00
Law total.....	33 00
Dawson Bros.....	6 00
Drysdale.....	5 00
Ashtford.....	5 00
Other sources.....	30
	457 80
	295 95
Cash on hand	\$161 85

## UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

The programme at the regular meeting of this society, on January 8, consisted of an essay by Mr. C. S. Campbell, on "The Acquisition by the Commons of control over the Public Purse." The essay was a rapid resumé of the steps by which the Commons acquired control over the public expenditure of England. In the belief of the essayist, these consisted simply of the purchase of certain benefits, whether of new rights or the redress of old wrongs from the king. A more agreeable theory, and one which is supported by historical proof, holds that in every age some men at least looked beyond the time in which they lived and steadily aimed at securing for their posterity, if not for themselves, that liberty of governing themselves which they had been deprived of at the Conquest. The discussion which ensued after the reading—somewhat too hurried—of the paper, developed two curious constitutional heresies. One, which was promulgated by a lawyer, was to the effect that the Canadian Senate or the British House of Lords, especially if reformed, would be justified in refusing to pass the supplies, should they ever see what, in their estimation, would be sufficient cause. As this gentleman's party is now out of power, it is easy to see the wish was father to the thought. Another theorist held that no principle underlies the question of who shall control the public purse, but that it is purely a matter of custom. He contended that the power of taxation and administering the revenue once pertained in our history to the king, another time to the nobility, and later to the Commons, the strongest power always having



control over the treasury, and the thought of the age approving it. As this gentleman did not quote any authority in support of his doctrine, one is at a loss to know upon what grounds he based his belief. Spite of differences of opinion, however, the evening was a very pleasant one, and thoroughly enjoyed by the few present. But here again we must enter a protest against the conduct of many members, who persistently stay away unless they have a share in the programme. Such a course is neither generous nor fair, and should meet the society's censure.

### Personals.

J. A. L. Waddell, Ma. E., '82, is professor of engineering in the University of Tokio, Japan.

D. F. H. Wilkins, B.A. Sc., '75 is teacher of Mathematics and Natural Science at Mount Forest, Ont.

D. E. McMillan, B. Ap. Sc. '84, is in Chicago, in the Engineering Department of the Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway.

W. B. Dawson, Ma. E. '75, late of the Dominion Bridge Co., is now Bridge Engineer for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

J. M. McKenzie, B. A. Sc., '84, has lately gone to the West—to Omaha, we believe, where McDonald, another '84 man is placed. We wish them success.

B. J. Saunders, D.L.S., Class '83 Science, has just passed a highly creditable examination before the Board of Provincial Land Surveyors of Ontario. Shake.

W. H. Howard, B. Ap. Sc. '83, late Assistant Professor in Chemistry has opened an office at 132 St. James St. as Mining Engineer and Assayer. We wish him the success which his merits deserve.

J. W. Moffatt, B. A. Sc. '84, for two years a representative of the Science Faculty on the editorial staff of the GAZETTE, is now Ass. engineer under P. A. Beterson, M. Am. Soc. C.E. of the C.P.Ry

We were pleased to hear that C. B. Smith, Class '84 Science, is rising fast in his profession. He has now charge of a Section on the construction of the Northern and Pacific Junction R.R., near Lake Nipissing.

Marriage has lately been epidemic among our recent graduates, no less than three having entered the nuptial state and being now in the enjoyment of the honeymoon. The three are J. W. Tucker, B.A., '81, M. Parent, B.A., '84, and J. Marceau, B.A., '84. Who will be the next? Mr. Parent has also been called to the ministry.

WHY is a sick beer-toper like a wearied student of Oriental languages? Because *t-he-brew* makes them *ale*.

THE zoological students who visit the Redpath Museum in the afternoons are said to be seeking for the *miss-ing* link. Some *miss-chief* is evidently in view.

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